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MACEDONIA AND THE WAR.

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union* 602.** [NON-PARTY.

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Notes and News.

Temperance and the War.

The question of temperance reform has never been taken so seriously as at this moment. There are some who desire to narrow down the problem to the immediate need for sobriety in war work. This necessity may have given rise to the controversy, but assuredly the question cannot end there. To allow it to do so would be disastrously to miscalculate the magnitude of the present need. The war gives rise to many grave perplexities besides the supply of ammunition. The question of infant mortality is a war question of the first importance, and we know from the reports of the Medical Officer of Health to the Local Government Board that it is closely bound up with the question of drink. That the temperance problem is to be faced and the cost of reform defrayed by the nation as a whole, not by any one section of it, gives the surest ground for hoping that reform will be so thorough and broadly based as vitally to affect the racial problems which immediately confront us.

Votes and the Double Standard.

Much genuine bewilderment was expressed a short time ago, when we entered a protest against special temperance legislation for women. "How odd," said even our tried friends; "surely you don't want *women* to get drunk!" The justice of the double standard was assumed. To-day, the working-man is accused, exactly as the women were, of endangering high national interests, by excessive drinking. But observe. He is enfranchised; and there is practically no talk of special legislation to meet his case. If he abstains, his wife will certainly abstain, too; if the public-houses close, the clubs will follow suit. The King and Lord Kitchener, with all their households, are leading the way, and parts of our Overseas Dominions are already hastening to fall into line! The justice of the single standard is assumed. This is magnificent, and Suffragists will not fail to rejoice; neither will they fail to draw the moral.

Women and War Service.

We learn with the utmost satisfaction that the Women's Conference with the Board of Trade desired by the National Union, as mentioned in our last issue, is to be held on Monday, April 12th, at 3.30 p.m., at Whitehall Gardens. Mr. Runciman invites the N.U.W.S.S. to send "not more than two representatives" to attend the Conference. On Saturday last the total number of applications received from women for war work was estimated at about 33,000.

Equal Pay for Equal Work.

The business of filling up the gaps in the ranks of labour by extending the employment of women is steadily increasing. A notable instance is the putting of women to the machinery by which the tins of Army rations and jam are hermetically soldered down. So far, this work has been exclusively done by men, but owing to a shortage of male labour to deal with the immediate pressure of work, women are now employed. We are glad to note that the men insist that the full trade union wage shall be paid to any woman employed, and accordingly these new workers are earning nearly £2 a week.

Woman and the Motor Van.

We learn that the National Motor Cab Co. now employ nearly thirty women, who are already making a success of driving motor vans about the London streets. They are paid 4s. a day when in the garage, and 5s. a day when out with the van. The driving of taxi-cabs, however, is still forbidden, and no woman can obtain a license in London. That this prohibition is based rather on prejudice than reason, is proved by the useful work of the Parisian "Chauffeuse," who is taking the place of her man at the front, and driving the car which is often his private property. She is successfully at work also on the trams and underground railways of Paris.

Women and "Economic Conscription."

About three hundred representatives of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop-Assistants assembled at Manchester on Sunday for their annual Conference. In the Presidential address a strong protest was made against a threatened "influx of cheap labour, coupled with a most invidious form of economic conscription in the shape of a suggested replacement of able-bodied male labour in the shops by female labour, a replacement which the union was asked by authority to forward by every means in its power." It is evident that only the strict application of the principle of equal pay for equal work can meet this difficulty, and, in any case, the practice of dismissing men of military age in order to force them to enlist is a form of tyranny against which we cannot too indignantly protest.

Sweated Shop Assistants.

But when the President of the Union goes on to condemn women's labour in shops on the ground of its unhealthiness, we are not deeply impressed. The conditions of women shop assistants cannot be too carefully safeguarded, but this masculine concern for the health of women competitors is too familiar a piece of bluff to be taken very seriously. We much regret that the meeting, while passing an emergency resolution to insist

SNA

upon the full minimum wage for men, rejected an addendum fixing the same wage for women. It was argued that the rank and file of women had made no demand for such rates. This is an ancient argument against the rights of the sweated worker, and the women's lack of spirit is perhaps accounted for when we learn that over 1,000 women members of the Union receive less than 12s. a week.

Women Teachers' Demand.

We are glad to note the protest made by the National Federation of Women Teachers on Saturday against inequality of payment between the sexes. Miss Dix informed the meeting that she came from a city where women worked by the side of men preparing munitions of war; but they did not pay those women the same as they paid the men. A resolution was passed urging the Government to insist upon equal payment for the women who fill the places of men.

The Nation as a Whole.

It is noteworthy that at least three public men (apart from the I.L.P. Conference) have recently been urging that now is the appointed time to reflect upon the terms of a future peace settlement. Lord Milner believes that this should be the work of statesmen; Dr. Lyttelton urges it upon thinking people; Mr. Arnold Bennett regards it as the bounden duty of democracy, and his words (in the *Daily News* of April 1st) are not without interest to Suffragists: "For myself I have no doubt that the sagacity of the nation as a whole would be greater than the sagacity of the Government, but even if it were not, the right of the nation to govern itself in the gravest hour of its career remains unchallengeable." Whatever their opinion as to the best moment for discussing the basis of peace, Suffragists will agree in wanting to know by what possible means "the nation as a whole" can apply its sagacity to public affairs until "the nation as a whole" is enfranchised.

War Prisoners in Germany.

The British Emergency Committee has published a second report. It is satisfactory to know that it has first-hand evidence of good work done by the German Committee for helping foreigners in distress, and that Pastor Siegmund-Schultz, the leading member of the Committee, has permission to pay frequent visits to the detention camp at Ruhleben, near Berlin, where about 4,500 British civilians are confined. He is free to converse with the prisoners as he chooses, and can make representations on their behalf, and report to their relatives. Whether as a result of this influence or for some other reason, great improvements in the Ruhleben camps are now reported to the Foreign Office. These reforms are in respect of food, money allowance, medical attention, and sanitary arrangements.

War and Free Speech.

One detrimental effect of war, though probably less marked in Great Britain than in any other belligerent country, is the grave danger to which the rights of free speech are exposed. In our last issue we noted this effect in Germany and France; and now an instance occurs at home of a deliberate attempt to suppress the opinions of the Independent Labour Party. Suffragists are not unaccustomed to find halls closed against them, and, irrespective of their views on the war, they will unite in rejoicing that the rights of free speech have, after all, been vindicated at Norwich.

Porters with Limitations.

Travellers on the Great Central Railway will for some time have noticed women at work cleaning carriages. From the ranks of these cleaners, porters have now been chosen, and are already regarded as a success. *The Times* reports that "one of the most astonished arrivals on Good Friday morning was a young officer with a heavy kit-bag and a quantity of other luggage, who found himself relieved of it by an Amazon with a badge on her arm, who put him, luggage and all, in a taxi-cab before he had time to realise where he was, and in just as business-like a way, pocketed his tip." "Women have their limitations," remarked a high official to *The Times* reporter, "but there is plenty of scope for them." This is gratifying. High officials, we need not mention, are without limitations.

WOMEN FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The following letter has been sent to the Press:—

Sir,—In the fourth report of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, issued in April, 1914, some important recommendations were made in favour of employing women more largely in various branches of the Service. The recommendations of the majority definitely stated that the principle governing the employment of women should be to secure the advantage of the services of women wherever those services would best promote the public interest. It was also recommended that in addition to extending the work for female typists, women should be eligible for posts in museums and libraries, and for appointments in particular administrative positions in certain departments. With regard especially to the Inspectorates of the Departments of Education, Local Government, and Prisons, the Commission pointed out that the present proportion of female to male officials indicated an inadequate appreciation of the services which women are able to render. It was therefore recommended that an enquiry should be held by the Treasury to ascertain the clerical, inspectoral, and administrative positions which should be filled by women, and the salaries they should receive.

The exclusion of women from many posts in the public services was the subject of serious and continued protest long before the outbreak of war. Since that date the Government Departments have been largely depleted of their male staff and there is consequently severe pressure on the men who are left. The Commissioners pointed out clearly that the employment of female clerks had proved successful in the Post Office and that the Heads of other Departments had also spoken with approval of the work of women. In the General Post Office nearly 3,000 women clerks were employed—and only about 500 in the rest of the public service. On the ground of efficiency and of the best interests of the public, there seems not the slightest reason why the recommendations of the Commissioners for the extension of openings to women should not be put into immediate effect. Moreover, when we remember the serious distress which has been experienced by professional women, whose means of livelihood have been suspended during the present crisis, it is obvious that their claims are particularly cogent at the moment.

The recommendations of the Commissioners for the further extension of work to women in the Civil Service were made in April of last year: since then, months of suffering and distress have been experienced by the wage-earning women of the country. Women desire work and an open market for their services, but unfortunately many are forced by the circumstances arising from the war to demand relief, and even in this direction, the steps taken to relieve the needs of the professional women in Great Britain have been palpably inadequate and unsatisfactory.

In view of the present shortage of male labour and of the serious amount of unemployment amongst women, we urge that another and determined effort shall be made to ensure that the recommendations of the majority of the Commissioners in respect of enlarging the scope of work for women in the Civil Service shall be put into effect without further delay.—Yours truly,

Margaret Ashton, Edward H. Busk, H. Montagu Butler, Louise Creighton, Millicent Garrett Fawcett, H. Jex-Blake, E. F. Constance Jones, S. A. Lees, Oliver Lodge, Gilbert Murray, John Rhys, C. Grant Robertson, Mary Scharlieb, Eleanor Mildred Sidgwick, George Adam Smith, Philip Snowden, J. A. Spender, Katharine Stephen, Margaret J. Tuke, James Ward, Mary A. Ward, Beatrice Webb.

ANOTHER WOMEN'S HOSPITAL UNIT FOR SERBIA.

On Saturday last part of the Field Hospital Unit of the Women's Imperial Service League, set out, together with the British Farmers' Fever Unit, for Serbia. The Unit of the W.I.S.L., organised by Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, consists of seven women surgeons and doctors, eighteen nurses, sixteen women orderlies, and six men orderlies. Nineteen of its members started from Euston on Saturday last to embark with the Fever Unit in the Admiralty Transport *Saidieh* at Liverpool, and the remainder will either travel *viâ* Marseilles or be taken direct by Sir Thomas Lipton. Though primarily a surgical Unit, it is prepared, if necessary, to deal with fever. It is taking out tents in order to be independent of houses that are insanitary and full of typhus germs. The doctors of the Unit are Miss Helen B. Hanson, Miss Isobel Tate, Mrs. King-May Atkinson, Miss E. Maud Marsden, Miss Beatrice Coxon, Miss Catherine Payne, and Miss Isabel King-May.

The Fever Unit, which is to occupy buildings set apart for its use by the Serbian Government, is under Dr. L. Fabian Hirst, at one time senior bacteriologist in Ceylon, and has three other doctors and a large staff of nurses and orderlies.

BELGIAN HONOURS FOR AN ENGLISHWOMAN.

Miss Beatrice Dormer Maunder, Directress of the Anglo-Belgian Hospital at Rouen, has been presented with the Cross of Chevalier of the Order of Leopold in recognition of valuable services rendered to the Belgian people, the presentation being made in the name of the Belgian Government by General Selliers de Moranville. At the outbreak of war Miss Maunder started a home at Ostend for the relief of distressed Belgians, and later on devoted herself to nursing wounded Belgian soldiers, establishing a hospital in the Kursaal. On the advance of the Germans, the hospital had to be abandoned, and Miss Maunder took refuge at Dunkirk. A little later, at the request of General de Selliers, she undertook the establishment of a hospital for Belgian soldiers at Rouen, which has done excellent work.

FOR LASTING PEACE.

The women of many nations are showing themselves greatly in sympathy with the International Women's Congress, to be held at The Hague on April 28th, 29th, and 30th. At a meeting held at Caxton Hall on March 31st, Miss Maude Royden said that Great Britain and Ireland were sending over one hundred women, while a considerable number would be present from Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Belgium.

Miss Royden explained that at the Congress discussion would take place, not on the war, but on the peace settlement after the war, with the object of finding means to prevent the settling of disputes in the future by the terribly wasteful method of war. People had said that the idea of holding the Congress was impossible, and urged them to wait till the war was over ; but it would be far more difficult to meet and discuss in a friendly spirit when one or other side had been defeated. Women, throughout the awful suffering of the war, had still been conscious of their sisterhood, and through that of their solidarity. She believed that, underneath the fury of war, the people were friendly. There had been a great and instant response to the call of the Dutch women for this meeting at The Hague, which was the traditional centre of efforts for constructive peace. It was rather an extraordinary fact, however, that while these vast areas throughout Europe were being occupied by armies, there was no room in the Peace Palace at The Hague large enough to take in the women who were going to this Congress in the interests of peace.

When hostilities broke out she had heard that this war was to end war, and that idea had comforted her ; but on referring to history, she discovered that every war that had taken place had been undertaken to end war, and no war had achieved this object. It did not follow that simply because peace was desired it could be made permanent. When fighting was over, if permanent peace was to be secured it would be through the efforts of those who, unable to go to the trenches, were doing the intellectual fighting at home, and women must show their determination to do their best by hard thinking and by their actions, and so make effectual the efforts which the men are making in the trenches.

Miss Royden concluded by stating that at the preliminary meeting at Amsterdam, it was the German women who pressed that Miss Chrystal Macmillan should take the chair at the Congress, and when the British present suggested that it would be fairer to have a chairman belonging to a neutral country, the Germans declined to admit the objection, saying that they preferred to have Miss Macmillan. If the spirit of conciliation and friendliness were to be the keynote of a Congress held during a war, it would be a unique experience for the heart and mind, and each member would return with a fresh mission of goodwill and hope.

Mrs. Barton (President of the Women's Co-operative Guild) spoke of the newly awakened sense of responsibility and realisation of suffering which the labouring woman is for the first time beginning to express in relation to the war. Even the consciousness of the child, she said, was different on these points from what it would have been fifty years ago. She described how the little child of a working woman had uttered two words which for her meant the dividing point of centuries and of hope for the future. " Poor soldiers," it had murmured as two Tommies entered an omnibus. There was no consciousness of military glory in the child's remark, only pity, and the passengers were deeply touched. But did not this child represent the mind of the people who did not love war? That child was reflecting, unknowingly, the spirit of the deep instinct of motherhood which was a passion of the working women of to-day. That instinct was producing the capacity for co-operation, and that again was leading to the conception of internationalism. The working woman was asking : what was science doing to promote happiness? What were the leaders doing whom they were taught to respect? It was true that the working woman realised that at home science was fighting against disease, she realised what the ravages of consumption means, but was science to be used for preserving life, and afterwards for slaughtering the best in the land? She did not believe in the power of the political machine alone to secure a permanent peace. She had more faith in the voice of the people, and women must be ready to give the lead.

Another meeting, for the same purpose, will be held on Thursday, April 15th, at 3 p.m., at Morley Hall, 26, George Street, Hanover Square, and will be addressed by Miss A. Maude Royden and Miss Picton-Turbevill. Admission will be free.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS.

Suffragists in this country will be pleased to know that they have the encouragement of women in all parts of the Empire in the work they are doing, and will be grateful for their generous help. The following is the text of the letter received last week by Mrs. Fawcett from the West Australian National Council of Women in response to the appeal sent recently to the women of the Overseas Dominions :—

" Dear Mrs. Fawcett,—In response to the appeal from the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, asking for help against the distress amongst women and children in England in consequence of the war, the West Australian National Council of Women has much pleasure in sending you the enclosed (£33).

" As desired in the letter signed by yourself, Lady French, and Lady Balfour, a public appeal was made through *The West Australian*, our leading daily paper. By the kindness of the Editor a Women's One Shilling Fund was opened, and the enclosed draft is the result. We are sorry that the sum is not ten times as large, but there are so many War Funds to subscribe to, and unfortunately there is a certain amount of distress here owing to a disastrous drought in the farming districts.

" We are delighted to be able to help you in even such a small way in your most laudable efforts, and hope you will accept the enclosed £33 with the best wishes of the W. A. National Council of Women."—We are, yours very sincerely,

Edith D. Cowan, President.
Evie Marmion, Hon. International Sec.

FRANCE.

The French Deputies of the Department of the Seine have presented a Bill proposing to make motherless children who lose their fathers during the war wards of the nation.

NORWAY.

An important change in the law relating to children born out of wedlock has lately been carried through the Lower and Upper Houses of Parliament. This reform ensures both to illegitimate and legitimate children an equal right of inheritance, and gives to the former a right to the family name of the father as well as to that of the mother. Herr Castberg, in introducing the motion in the Storthing (Lower House), said :—

" It is thirty years since this question first came before the House. Think of the amount of suffering and injustice which has fallen this year upon mothers and children to whom we have neglected our duty. In Norway, 6,000 children are every year born out of wedlock and the percentage of deaths among these children in the first year of life is more than double that of legitimate children."

The new law, he stated, would give to the mother a secure position and would protect the infant, and he did not believe it would weaken the marriage bond or injure family life.

WOMEN'S EDUCATION IN EGYPT.

It is not so long since a Mohammedan man, on being praised because he had had an operation performed on his wife's eyes which enabled her to see once more, replied :—

" It is a worthy action that she should be enabled to look upon her children. It counts with God. To see a blind dog who cannot look upon her puppies is a painful sight. How much more a human being! For, after all, a woman is a human being."

To-day, the world-wide movement for the education and freedom of women has already made a strong impression on far-away conservative Egypt. Thirteen of the Government schools for the training of teachers have been especially set apart for women students, and now have an attendance of 2,030 girls, with forty-two trained women teachers. In one of these schools there were 138 applications for the thirteen student vacancies; 2,867 village schools had an attendance of 22,002 girls last year.

The old men of Egypt are, as usual, conservative, and in a country where religion teaches that women have no souls, the wonder is not that there is objection to the education of women, but that the barriers of prejudice should have been so successfully broken down. Already the younger men are eager for educated wives; some of them are even sending their young wives to school, or arranging to have them taught at home.

The life of an uneducated harem woman was described by one of them in these words : " I sit on this couch for a time, and when I get tired, I cross over and sit on that one."

Apparently, it is dawning on the younger men of Mohammedan countries, that an educated wife and helpmate is more interesting and profitable than a woman whose most startling capacity is like that of " Sal," famous in Western song and story as a " blame good sitter."

Ad Vitam.

Some Thoughts on the Attainment of the Ideal in Married Life.

I.

A great change has lately come over the British nation in its attitude to child-life. Problems of parentage and problems of education are coming more and more to the front, and more and more the thoughts of us all are centred on the well-being of the rising generation, as the most important factor in the country's development. For the life of a nation, as of an individual, is a progress—an infinite progress, it may be—from human limitations to divine perfection, and every thought and action, each step in life, is conditioned by something that has gone before. The vitality, the intelligence, the temperament, the total well-being of every child as of every family is conditioned by the character and relationship of the parents, and it follows that if the family life of a nation is the foundation of its character and power, it is on the marriages made in the nation that the whole history of a people depends. All that concerns marriage is, therefore, of momentous importance for men as citizens no less than as individuals, and however ambitious a subject this may be for discussion, it is one which each of us must consider, and on which we must form opinions for ourselves, for the sake of our children and of all who come within our sphere of influence.

It is not hard to discover what *is* the ideal in married life. Poets and philosophers have spoken throughout the centuries with no uncertain voice, and our own experience will tell us what it is that is able to satisfy human nature. In plain, yet perhaps not very explicit English, it is surely to love and be loved in return. And in two of the most wonderful, truth-telling lines ever written—so it seems to me—Tennyson has described for us the beginning and the continuing and the ending of the ideal relationship between the man and the woman who should pass their lives together. In a stanza of "Locksley Hall," he says:

"Love took up the harp of life, and smote on all the chords with might,
Smote the chord of Self, which, trembling, passed in music out of sight."

Could there be any more perfect expression in words of the idea of wondering self-realisation and joyous self-giving which are the whole essence of human happiness?

The ideal marriage is the love-marriage. That is a truism. But does everyone who uses the word "love" understand what it means? Have they felt it in themselves, and analysed it, and understood the nature and the cause and the effect of this mysterious attraction of two human beings which is sometimes so transitory and fleeting, and sometimes endures till death and beyond? Shall we mar its beauty for ourselves and for others if we try to go beyond the mere feeling and explain it? Does the musician who understands with his mind the rules of harmony and the thoughts which have gone to the building up of a beautiful symphony enjoy less or more than the man who is only conscious of pleasant sounds? To me it seems that the more willing we are to search out our own spirits and understand with our minds the wondrous things of God's law, the fuller and richer to us all does life become and the more, and not the less, of God's glory do we see in the world around.

Thinking then often, and with all my mind, about the meaning of love, it has seemed to me that its nature can be better understood if we describe it with the poets as unity of spirit, or as the force or condition that makes two spirits one. The love that has ever worked and is working now among human beings, making for unity and sympathy and brotherhood, is not other in its nature and effect than the great forces of the Universe that we know as gravity and cohesion. And just as two drops of water will draw quickly together and become one because of their essential likeness to each other, while oil and water will not mix, so two human spirits whose nature is the same will quickly unite. Infinite indeed, and to us unknown, are the happenings in the past which go to make up the personality, or what we might call the spirit of any man, and we cannot always therefore say what it is in one man which accounts for his attraction to another. But the more I think and observe the more certain I am that it is tastes, interests, thoughts, ideals in common, that make for love and friendship, and our differences that keep us apart. In the friendships of children, which vary from year to year and month to month, one sees that the cause of attraction is the interest of the moment—always the supreme thing in a child's life—and it is therefore no wonder that he quickly changes his friends with his interests. As we grow older it is always that part of us which is the deepest and most real which determines our friendships; and the love which lasts till death is the love which has united the innermost self, the soul, with the soul of another.

A man starts with a certain occupation in life. Something in its nature relates it to something that is already in the mind or spirit of the man. In other words, he likes it. As he learns more of it, or as we might say, relates himself more closely to it, his liking deepens to love, and if there is that in his occupation which is capable of responding to his growth, and in which his growing spirit can express itself, the occupation becomes a passion, a part of the man's very life. So, too, with books—only that book will appeal to us, or as we say, interest us, of which the language or subject or style relates it to something which already forms part of our mental or spiritual equipment. To a child the dull book is the book that has no connection with his activities or previous thoughts.

Two people meet and are attracted to each other, it may be by something superficial, it may be by reason of some manifest unity in their ideas, it may be by the invisible spirit in each. They find out more common interests, the attraction becomes stronger, and if they are thrown together with so much already akin in their natures that common experiences will act upon them both in the same way and produce similar spiritual growth, we may expect that the attraction founded on partial, and increasing in closer, unity will ripen into the deepest of friendships and mutual love.

In thus considering the meaning of love I have passed from conjugal love to friendship, and again from friendship to the closest spiritual union or love, because I am certain of this, that the nature of the feeling in both cases is one and the same. It may differ in degree but not in kind. Between the spiritual union that exists between friends of the same sex, be they man and man or woman and woman, and that spiritual friendship which is the basis of true happiness in married life, there is no difference. In the stanzas of "In Memoriam," in which Tennyson describes his friendship with Hallam, he describes a unity of spirit than which no spiritual love between man and wife could be closer or more complete, more satisfying to the spiritual nature of both. But man is not spirit alone. He is made up of body and spirit together, and that union therefore is most satisfying to his nature in which his whole being can find expression, and so it comes to pass that in married life the love between man and wife finds in the physical union a fuller expression, a means of the uttermost self-giving, and, in the birth that ensues, a purifying and ennobling outlet from selfish and self-centred thought and a further bond of common interest.

There is no question that the tradition of marriage and the laws and customs which we have inherited from our primitive forefathers and more recent ancestors have laid more stress on the physical and less on the spiritual union in marriage. The physical union which has been in the lowest animals an instinct for the purpose of reproduction has ceased to be in spiritual man the chief feature of his marriage bond. Man, as we know him to-day, *has* a body and physical organs, which, rightly directed, are of service in his dual kingdom; but man, the human being, made in the image of God, subordinates the physical to the spiritual and abandons even now in his material existence anything that is injurious to his spiritual life. Hitherto the physical has dominated our thoughts and we have paid it the homage of fear and subservience. But intelligent love, which has always expressed itself in sacrifice for the sake of the higher good and for the well-being of others—in worship, that is, and service—is revealing to man his spiritual nature. By deeds of love he is learning the doctrine of the God of love, and he knows now that there is nothing in his body to fear. As his spiritual consciousness deepens, his fears decrease. He learns the true meaning of faith, and he realises that his body will only express that which his mind commands, that the body is the servant of the spirit and will follow where the spirit leads. From childhood onward, married or single, enlightened men and women are captains of their fate, and our marriage laws and customs must be revised in accordance with our increasing knowledge of progressive human nature, obedient to divine intuition, and freed from the burdens of tradition.

In another article I will deal with the question from the educationalist's point of view.

Kate C. House.

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Meetings: Wednesday, April 14th, 3.30—6.0 p.m.: "Proposed Women's Training Colony." Miss Helen Wilson, M.D. Club Tea.

April Magazines.

The Englishwoman. (Evans Brothers, Ltd., monthly, 1s.).—In "Implications of the Women's Suffrage Movement," Mr. Oliver Strachey discusses the question as to whether Suffrage Societies, as such, should embark on peace propaganda, and maintains that an anti-war propaganda at the present moment is particularly liable to be misunderstood, and to bring odium upon a cause "which already struggles against the prejudices of the world." It is also, he considers, impossible to embark on any anti-war campaign without advocating some definite political action on the part of the Government, and if propaganda aims at definite action Suffragists would not agree as to the immediate practical steps to be taken to realise these ideals "beyond, of course, the almost universal determination to finish, and win, the present war." He concludes, therefore, that "the dangers of disruption in any society which plunges itself into this conflict of opinions must be very great: the danger of misunderstanding is obvious"; while, on the other hand, the influence on peace would be but small since "the world is at war and women have not got votes."

In "Problems of the Day," we are reminded that the nation owes to Florence Nightingale not only the reform of nursing, but all sorts of administrative improvements "which we are now said to owe to French, now to Japanese doctors and hygienists," but which were pressed upon our own War Office fifty years ago, or recommended by Florence Nightingale to the Emperor of the French and the German Crown Princess in 1870-71, returning to us "by devious ways when our minds were ripe to receive them." For example—one out of very many—the School of Practical Cookery at Aldershot, established by Mr. Herbert, was suggested to Lord Panmure by Miss Nightingale on her return from the Crimea. She also "inspired a whole series of sanitary reforms, civil and military, in India, and was in constant correspondence with successive Viceroys," her advice being asked by statesmen and administrators to an extent which few people to-day realise.

Mr. William Diack deals with the rough, hard lot of the farm-labourer's wife in Scotland, and also with the ill-effects of bad housing conditions on the standard of morality in country districts, and Miss Ethel M. Naish, under the title "Who is the Collecting Officer?" discusses some of the weaknesses of the Affiliation Orders Act, 1914. Other articles are "The Russians and their Language," "Country Life in Russian Poland," and "Feminism in Greek Literature."

The Women's Industrial News (7, John Street, Adelphi, 2s. per annum, or 6d. quarterly) contains a very valuable and detailed report by Mrs. Bernard Drake on the conditions of the shop assistant, which she shows to be very far from satisfactory.

Jus Suffragii. (I.W.S.A., 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, monthly 4d.)—A special number is issued this month, with a view to appealing to the large number of women of all nations who will assemble at The Hague. Mrs. Fawcett writes on Women's Suffrage and a European Congress after the War, and urges that at the next great Congress of Powers the women's point of view should be considered and the women's voice heard. "Let them be put in a position to help men in the future to make all but defensive wars impossible." Mrs. Fawcett does not claim that women would be immune from war fever, but she does claim that they are more likely than men "to seek, before the war fever sets in, to produce conditions likely to prevent wars, to strengthen those relations between States which lead to mutual understanding and good-will, rather than relations based on mutual hatred and rivalry."

Mr. Norman Angell discusses the Foundations of a Permanent Peace, and advocates the creation of "a new Europe of States mutually pledged to protect each other from aggression," under which plan the whole force of Europe would be pledged to protect any one of its members, as opposed to the old principles of the Balance of Power. Mr. George Trevelyan contributes an article on "The Women of Serbia," and M. Romain Rolland, in an article entitled "Our Neighbour the Enemy," calls attention to the good work done by the Emergency Committee for the Assistance of Germans, Austrians, and Hungarians in distress and the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, in helping to alleviate the lot of "alien enemies" in this country, while a similar committee has been organised in Berlin to succour our fellow subjects in Germany. *L'Union Française* reports that it cannot attend the Congress at The Hague, because French women do not feel able to take any part in peace demonstrations while their country is invaded.

LIGHT FARM WORK FOR WOMEN.

County Councils are being urged to encourage suitable women to undertake the lighter branches of farm work by arranging courses of instruction, and applicants are asked to apply to the nearest Labour Exchange.

The Harper Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Salop, has already arranged for two courses of instruction for women, the first beginning on April 7th and ending on April 21st, and the second starting on April 22nd and ending on May 6th. The object of these courses is to give a short training in those branches of farm work which women can readily undertake, the instruction including milking, dairy work, the care of stock and poultry, potato planting, &c. The day's work consists of about eight hours, beginning at 6 o'clock in the morning. Board and lodgings are provided in the college.

There will be accommodation for thirty women at each course, and each has to provide herself with sufficient suitable working clothing for fourteen days—to include a pair of strong boots, and sufficient aprons or overalls for such work as butter-making and milking.

The selected candidates are required to give an undertaking to engage in farm work after the instruction is completed, provided a suitable offer of employment be available.

Correspondence.

THE DARLINGTON PROTEST.

Madam,—As organising secretary of the National Conference of Women, on April 14th, I should like to point out in reference to the letter from the Darlington Women's Suffrage Society (1) that the conference was called, and an organising committee formed, in response to the invitation embodied in the following resolution:—

"The Union of Democratic Control, convinced that democracy must be based on the equal citizenship of men and women, invites the co-operation of women."—*(Resolution of the General Council of the Union of Democratic Control, February 9th, 1915.)*

But it is not a Conference of the U.D.C.

(2) The Committee carefully worded the circular which was sent to religious, educational, social, industrial, and political organisations so as to ensure a comprehensive body of opinion whilst leaving societies uncommitted—"We shall be glad to know whether your Society, Committee, or Branch would like to send not more than two members to the Conference who are in sympathy with the general tenour of the policy outlined in the resolution." The word "*members*," not representatives or delegates, was used so that there should be no misunderstanding.

In these circumstances it is difficult to understand what the Executive of the National Union means by "forbidding societies," &c. Surely individual members of the N.U. are free to express their opinions?

The Conference is not a Stop-the-war agitation but it is called to "discuss the basis of a permanent peace," a matter of vital importance to all Suffragists.

Muriel Matters,
Hon. Organising Secretary of the Conference.

[*The Executive Committee has made it perfectly clear that they would not, even if they could, prevent individual members of the N.U. from attending the Conference as individuals.*—Ed., "C.C."]

Madam,—The letter from the Darlington Society in your last issue, indicates, I most sorrowfully think, the beginning of a disintegrating process in the National Union. All is not well with a Union whose Societies have to ask their Executive to reconsider its interpretation of a resolution of a vitally important Council meeting. I would ask my fellow-members very carefully to consider the position, and once more to try to realise the antagonism between war and the Woman Suffrage Movement.

Suffragists stand for the principle that force is not the basis of society. The world has again accepted the appeal to force, and force only. "You see now," the Anti-suffragist may say, "we were right, force *is* the basis of society: your pretensions are founded, as we always said they were, on a false assumption."

The N.U. at its Council meeting, by refusing to work for the building up of public opinion in favour of possible alternatives to war, acquiesced in the Anti-suffrage position, and must take the consequences to the Suffrage Movement, when the war is over, of the deterioration of that public opinion, which they have refused to try to educate. Upon the N.U., as the largest Suffrage Society, rests a great responsibility.

Let us once more think the matter out. I do not believe the majority of the delegates at the Council meeting, still less of the members of Societies, realise in the least what is at stake.

Evelyn M. Gunter.

WOMEN AND MUNITIONS OF WAR.

Madam,—The Common Cause of March 26th gives a very interesting report of the peace meeting at Westminster on March 22nd, and calls attention to the Swiss women's appeal to the women of all nations to work for peace and goodwill. It also contains a notice of the "special response made by women to the demand for labour in the making of war munitions," while the leading article welcomes the Government's tardy recognition of its dependence on women's service in time of war. Does the appeal of the Government include a demand for more women to be employed in the making of war munitions, and does the National Union, which is working so nobly for peace, intend to assist women to respond to that particular appeal?

These notices, coming all together in one issue of our paper, mark clearly the contending principles upon which most of us base our lives. We deplore the war while we "load the rifle which kills another man." We work with both hands for objects diametrically opposed, and what the right hand accomplishes the left hand destroys. We join peace societies, and do our utmost to cultivate understanding of and sympathy with our enemies, with the object of paving the way for the only sure means of peace; while at the same time we do everything in our power to support the Government in a war which we accept as a war to the death. And this bitter absurdity is held to be inevitable. Most certainly it is, while we persist in acting on the two "conflicting principles" of "love and selfishness."

Women have now the grand opportunity of choosing between the higher and lower forms of patriotism, and of abandoning the principle of selfishness for the principle of love. Many thousands of women are already engaged in the making of war munitions, but let Suffragists at least not add to their number. Let us at once endeavour to act logically in this matter and work wholly for peace or wholly for war. We shall, of course, be told that the time is not yet for us to refuse to take part in the war, that we must wait till the war is over. But feeling, as we do, that war is murder, what possible obligation can compel us at any time to take this particular part in it? The time, indeed, is now or never; and shrapnel cartridges must be left to the men who believe in war and to the women who give up their inborn sense of right to the control of those men.

Isabel Ashby.

[*While welcoming our correspondent's plea for sincerity, we must remind her* (1) *that the National Union expresses no opinion whatever on the present war;* (2) *that it makes no appeal for any particular form of labour. We refer to her letter in our leader.*]

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONGRESS
THE HAGUE, April 28th, 29th, and 30th, 1915.
A PUBLIC MEETING
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On THURSDAY, APRIL 15th, at 3 p.m.
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PUBLIC MEETING
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The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

Women and Munitions of War.

It is argued by a correspondent that some of us—the National Union and The Common Cause in particular—are trying to have it both ways; that we welcome the proposal to organise women for war service, while at the same time we condemn war in general as a crime against humanity.

Now, beyond question, this sudden appeal to the womanhood of the nation to help in making engines of destruction is exercising the minds of many women at this moment. The situation is unprecedented. We are assured on the highest authority that in the present crisis the one supreme necessity is an adequate supply of ammunition. There is an actual shortage of labour, and women are implored to step into the breach. Deep in the hearts of most women is a horror of destruction, above all, the destruction of human bodies; yet to large numbers the need of their country appears paramount. What are they to do? The first instinct of a great majority, now as ever, is to respond to the immediate cry for help. A woman will make cartridges with the same zeal, and for exactly the same reason, as she knits socks, in order to help her own particular man at the front. In nine cases out of ten, she has no bloodthirsty desire to hurt anyone else's husband or brother; her whole being is concentrated on helping her own, and just there her vision ends. Of such women there are multitudes, some inside some outside, the National Union. They correspond to the numberless men who are fighting whole-heartedly for their wives and children, and in so doing desolating the homes of their fellow men, without a shadow of compunction. To understand them is to pardon them.

But there are others among us, as our correspondent points out, who hasten to join peace societies, and straightway go off to forge weapons of war. Such tell us, and we readily believe them, that they forge those weapons in order "to shorten the war," while they join peace societies "to prevent war in the future." This attitude is also comprehensible. We are repeatedly reminded that there are many pacifists in the trenches, most of us have personal knowledge of such; and accordingly there will be pacifist women in munition factories. If honour is due to these men, equal honour is due to the women.

There remain the little remnant who believe that this war is wrong now. The love they bear their country is of another order, and it is very certain that no amount of organising will drive them to make munitions of war, so their case need not, for a moment detain us.

The fact is that those who are honestly convinced that the making of munitions in this crisis is a supremely necessary act of patriotism, will make them, and are right in making them; the rest most certainly will not, and would be criminal if they did. The issue of registration forms is no more a cause of bomb-making than the signal to start a boat-race is the cause of the race. Even if the N.U. were working for peace, which it emphatically is not, it might still pursue its registering work with a clear conscience, since it makes no suggestion to women to undertake any particular form of labour, unless, indeed, it be such peaceful avocations as medicine or agriculture. As a Union it is no more concerned with recruiting than with stopping the war, and has very deliberately refused to take upon itself either of these functions.

But our correspondent goes deeper, and some may be found

to agree with her assertion that "most of us base our lives" on "contending principles." But is this quite fair? The fact rather seems to be that we are a large and comprehensive Union, and among our members, some base their lives on one principle, and some on another. The woman who makes shrapnel and the woman who desists from making it, each has her own sincere point of view, and each is equally incomprehensible to the other; perhaps she will always remain so. There are, of course, those—and they are probably numerous—whose principles would lead them to make bombs, and who nevertheless shrink from making them, as there are still, perhaps, a few men left lounging at home whose militarist opinions should have taken them to the front. Such people do base their lives on the contending principles of patriotism, as they conceive it, and self-indulgence. But to contend for just conditions of war work while desiring that this war shall be the last ever waged, is a perfectly honourable position, and it is the position of the National Union to-day.

The fundamental question, however, remains: Can non-militant Suffragists, as such, take part in this definite appeal to physical force? To this question the National Union gives no official answer; and the answer of individual members seems to be that many among them are of opinion that war can end war. These may—many of them do—conceive of the Suffrage movement as essentially an appeal from physical force to "public right"; but they hold (so far as we understand) that this ideal is only attainable, here and now, by a final appeal to physical force itself. Such will naturally devote themselves to working directly for "the war that will end war." After all, it is not the makers of shrapnel who cause war, but the thinkers of intolerant thoughts. The men and women who have been shrieking at a courageous preacher or desiring to repress a Labour Conference, even those, if any, who would insist on the National Union taking a uniform view on women's war service, all are contributing to the spirit of militarism. Those who discourage the clash of opinions do more than the bomb-makers to encourage the clash of arms.

Sore Places of Europe.

IV.—Macedonia.

Problems of War and Peace are discussed in THE COMMON CAUSE *in a series of articles by well-known writers. Contributors are left free to express their own opinions, which must not be assumed to represent the official views of the N.U.W.S.S.*

If one wanted an argument for the brotherhood of mankind, one might find it in the price which nations pay for each other's crimes. One generation turns away indifferent from a wrong which it might have prevented; its children are forced by the consequences of that wrong into a universal war. There is no wrong done in Europe in modern times which is not in some degree a contributory cause to this war. We all realise the part that Alsace and Bosnia have played; historians remind us of Poland; I am disposed for my part to lay stress on Morocco, and behind Morocco there is Egypt. Beyond a doubt, Macedonia has its place, and a large place, in the dismal series. This war began in a struggle for the mastery of the Near East, and the pivot of all Balkan questions is Macedonia.

How far back shall we go? The modern history of Macedonia begins with the Russo-Turkish War, and the Treaty of Berlin. The victory of the Russian arms ought to have ended the Macedonian question in 1879. In the Treaty of San Stefano, by which the Turks bought peace at the gates of Constantinople, Russia created a Great Bulgaria. It included the whole of the Slavonic regions of Macedonia, as far west as Ochrida, and as far south as Castovia. The frontier of the new state was well-drawn from the ethnographical standpoint. General Ignatiew used to say to the Turks, when they questioned his frontier: "You drew it yourselves with fire and sword." He included in Great Bulgaria all the country which the Turks had ravaged when they were suppressing the Bulgarian rebellion. Disraeli it was who tore up the Treaty of San Stefano, made a very small Bulgaria in place of the big united principality, and forced the Macedonians back beneath the Turkish yoke. On that occasion our fleet entered the Dardanelles with a welcome. The consequence was a generation of misery, oppression, and unrest, with occasional massacres to vary the more serious daily tyranny of the landlord and the brigand. The Bulgarians never surrendered their claims, and while their church organised and educated the people in its schools, the revolutionary organisation drilled them and armed them, and led them out, occasionally to open insurrection, more often to an incessant and demoralising guerilla warfare of ambushes and assassinations. Everyone remembers the epoch of "reform" which came at last in 1902, when Austria and Russia sketched their programme of European reconstruction in the Mürzsteg agreement. The reforms were so timid as to be nearly useless, and the state of Macedonia, ravaged now by Greek and Serbian as well as Bulgarian bands, was actually worse than before Europe intervened. On the eve of the Young Turk revolution (1908), Great Britain and Russia were concerting a bolder scheme, and there was a chance of realising something like the only adequate solution—autonomy under a European governor. Europe, however, decided, quite properly, to give the Young Turks a chance, and the Bulgarians of Macedonia rallied whole-heartedly to the Committee of Union and Progress, and even marched as volunteers under its standard. For about a year there was a vast improvement, but the Young Turks gradually fell under the guidance of the extremer Imperialists, and adopted a policy of "Turkification." By 1912 the latter state of Macedonia was worse than the first, and even the massacres had begun again.

At this critical moment the Concert failed again. It ought to have intervened to enforce at last self-government for Macedonia. It hesitated; it lectured the Balkan States; it vowed that if they went to war, they would be allowed to win no territory. But it failed to do what alone would have kept them quiet; it would not act itself. They were strong in their new unity, and in less than two months they had cleared the Turks out of Macedonia. The seeds of disunion were already alive among them, however. Greeks and Bulgars raced each other to seize Salonica, and the Greeks won by a few hours. In all the territory which they occupied, the Greeks and Serbs gradually began to impose their nationality on the Bulgarian inhabitants. By the spring of 1913 it was probable that a second war would be fought between the Allies for the division of the spoil. Once more the Concert had its chance, and once more it failed. The reason is fairly clear. The Balkan League, or at least the Serbo-Bulgarian Alliance, was a combination directed not merely against Turkey, but also against Austria. It had been negotiated under Russian patronage by the late M. de Hartwig, the Russian Minister at Belgrade, and it contained, as two Balkan diplomatists have told me, a secret clause which bound Bulgaria to assist Serbia in any future war against Austria. It was, in short, a necessary item in the strategy of Panslavism. The German Chancellor referred to it as his justification for the increase of the German army in 1912. Naturally Austria and Germany were only too glad to see the Balkan League go to pieces, and so far from intervening to prevent the second Balkan War, Austrian diplomacy did something to bring it about. It ended in the iniquitous Treaty of Bucharest, which assigned some undoubtedly Bulgarian regions to Greece, and gave the greater part of Bulgarian Macedonia to Serbia.

It is not a grateful task to describe what the fate of Macedonia has been under the Serbian conquerors. The details are set out in the report of the international Carnegie Commission, of which I was a member. To-day we all prefer to remember how gallantly the Serbs have fought against terrible odds, and the ghastly sufferings which they are enduring, even in the hour of victory, from the scourge of typhus. But the bare facts must be set down. They suppressed the Bulgarian Church, expelled its bishops and teachers, appropriated its churches and schools, and forced the village notables under pain of exile to declare themselves in writing, not merely loyal subjects of Serbia, but Serbians by race and choice. They have ruled under a system of martial law, to which it would be hard to find a parallel in all the records of modern militarism. They did, indeed, give a promise of Home Rule the other day in their hour of victory. Of that I will say only that, welcome as it is, if nothing better can be obtained, it will not satisfy the Bulgarians, and it will not bring peace to the Balkans. If Serbia, as the result of this war, acquires the vast Serb lands of Austria, and with them a coast-line on the Adriatic, she ought to restore the indisputably Bulgarian part of Macedonia, including Monastir and Ochrida, to Bulgaria. I say "restore," for, in 1912, in that unlucky "scrap of paper," the Serbo-Bulgarian Treaty of Alliance, she assigned these regions to Bulgaria, and renounced all claim to them. She is in grave danger to-day, because she cannot bring herself to make this sacrifice, for by making it she could at once secure the aid of the powerful Bulgarian army. Nay, more, this war would never have come about if Serbia and Bulgaria (for both are to blame) had known how to keep the Balkan League in being. Had it existed last summer, Austria would certainly have addressed her demands to Serbia in a less peremptory form. Macedonia has played a foremost part in the causation of this world-war. It will threaten the peace for yet another generation, unless the settlement brings justice to its national aspirations.

H. N. BRAILSFORD.

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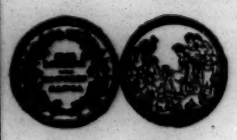
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Treasurer's Notes.

Five months have elapsed since the books of the N.U. were closed, and the annual balance-sheet prepared, and it may interest Suffragists to consider the amounts that have been expended and received at Headquarters during this period.

The total received at Headquarters since October 31st amounts to £4,057,* and of this £1,715 was ear-marked for special purposes. The money came in monthly in the following proportions:—November £1,127, December £540, January £1,343, February £1,045.

In addition to the ordinary work connected with the Federations and Societies, special funds for organising relief work have been administered at headquarters, and it should be realised that these various activities could not have been carried on without the services of the highly trained and efficient staff of the N.U., while rooms in the office have also been freely placed at the disposal of the committees engaged on special work connected with the war.

The various departments at headquarters are now fully occupied with the development of the important work that the N.U. has undertaken, and new needs are constantly arising; for instance, an extra sub-committee of the Executive has been created since the war, whose special function it is to watch over and safeguard the interests of women, and since the last Council meeting, the Information Bureau and the Literature Department have both been busy preparing the materials for the educational courses that our societies wish to organise.

This will indicate that funds must be as freely given as ever for the maintenance of our offices and staff; and although this kind of work may not produce anything which is tangible or showy, yet no one will grudge money spent on work of this nature for the sake of the moral and intellectual benefits that are derived from it.

* The shillings and pence are not included in the figures given.

N.U. Club Room.

As the rooms at 50, Parliament Street, which have hitherto been used as the N.U. work-rooms, are no longer needed for that purpose, it has been decided to open them as Club Rooms for the use of members of the National Union and their friends, where tea and light refreshments may be obtained at moderate prices. The literature and book department will be in the same building, and it is hoped that members will find the rooms of great use as a centre and meeting place.

Miss Watson, the Organiser-in-Charge, is anxious to make them as comfortable as possible, and in order to do this, would be very grateful for the loan or gift of a carpet or rugs, couch, easy chairs, writing table, small tables for tea, and tea cloths. One member has already offered to give the teacups and saucers, of leadless glaze china, and money to buy the rest of the china to match will be most gratefully received. Also will any members undertake to send any popular weekly or monthly papers regularly? It is hoped that the rooms will be ready to be opened by the middle of this month.

Literature Department.

We are stocking the pamphlet just published by the Fabian Women's Group called *War, Women, and Unemployment.*

LOST LETTERS.

In view of the fact that several letters containing Cheques and Postal Orders have lately failed to reach us, we shall be glad if any contributors who have not received an acknowledgment will communicate at once with the Hon. Treasurer, at 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. We would also suggest that in order to ensure safe delivery all letters containing money should be registered and that all cheques and postal orders should be crossed.

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Already acknowledged	4,518	18	1
Miss M. Domaille		18	0
Mrs. Park (third donation) ...	5	0	0
Mrs. Colbeck	2	0	0
Staff and Pupils, Gloucestershire School of Domestic Science (Belgian Relief, 10th weekly)	1	0	0
Professional Women's Patriotic Service Fund:—			
Miss M. R. Courtauld ...	10	0	0
The Ling Association ...	25	0	0
Mr. Walter C. Gingell ...	2	0	0
Students of Goldsmiths' College	10	0	0
Received for the Scottish Women's Hospital	84	1	6
	£4,658	17	7

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1914	751	7	3
Received from March 27th to April 3rd:—			
Affiliation Fees.			
Walker W.S.S.		7	3
Falmouth W.S.S.	1	8	6
Dundee W.S.S.	3	4	6
Ipswich W.S.S.		19	9
Pembury, Matfield, and Brenchley W.S.S.		6	0
Skegness W.S.S.		6	3
Oxford Women Students W.S.S.	5	0	0
Chorley W.S.S.		6	0
	£763	5	6

"COMMON CAUSE" STREET SELLING.

If you cannot sell "The Common Cause" yourself please send us some money so that we may employ out of work women to sell the paper. Donations should be sent to the Manager, "The Common Cause," 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

A list of important London pitches is kept at the Shop, 50, Parliament Street, and at the "C.C." office, and we want volunteers.

Marble Arch Depôt.—Copies can be obtained for Hyde Park sellers on Sunday afternoons from 44, Great Cumberland Place, W.

Kensington Depôt.—Miss Bryan, 7, Stratford Road, Kensington. Sellers in this neighbourhood may apply to her house for copies of the paper.

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

There has been an enormous increase in the work at the Abbaye de Royaumont during the last few weeks, and before long it is possible that another of our hospitals may be planted on French soil. For some time the French Red Cross authorities have expressed the desire that we should establish a hospital at Troyes. A representative of the Scottish Women's Hospitals has been over to inspect possible "locales," and will report to the Committee. Preparations are also speeding on for the dispatch of the complete new unit which it is hoped Dr. Alice Hutchison will shortly take out to Serbia.

Both in Serbia and in France the intention is to establish Bacteriological Laboratories as part of the new Hospitals. The necessary equipment for these laboratories is being prepared, and two expert women have volunteered their services.

Gifts in Kind.—The following will be gladly received by Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh. Gifts should be accompanied by the name and address of the donors, when they will be gratefully acknowledged:—

Bed jackets, dressing-gowns, bedroom slippers, pyjamas (flannel and cotton), day shirts (flannel and cotton), blankets (old and new), draw sheets, feather pillows, sheets, towels of all sorts, pillow cases, helpless case shirts, pants, vests, hot-water bottles (rubber), hot-water bottle covers.

LONDON UNITS.

Owing to the sympathetic attitude of the Press and the active co-operation of our Branches and of numerous friends, good progress can already be reported, and the ultimate success of these Units is, we hope, assured. The total sum collected to date is £2,200, which includes two special donations of £100 and £50 respectively, to be allocated to the purchase of the X-Ray apparatus for the French Unit. We have also had the offer of three motor-cars to be fitted as ambulances.

On March 22nd, two successful meetings were held, the first at Mrs. Ridpath's, 12, West Kensington Gardens, with Sir William Bull in the Chair, and the second at Mrs. Franklin Thomasson's, the Bishop of Kensington kindly acting as Chairman. Dr. Inglis, in a telling speech at Bedford College on March 23rd, brought home to her audience the need for help for both our French and Serbian Allies, and made all present realise the magnificent work that had already been accomplished by the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service.

At the annual meeting of the Wandsworth Branch a collection was made, and a substantial sum was forwarded to swell the hospital funds. Meetings are being arranged at Highgate, Lewisham, Wimbledon, Stepney, North Kensington, and Blackheath, and we also have had offers of several drawing-rooms for meetings. The dates will be announced in due course.

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N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list of March 26th, 1915 :—			
Further donations received to April 3rd, 1915 :—			
Brought forward	15,512	18	3½
Robert Sharp, Esq. (Serbia) ...		10	0
"Serbian Flag"	1	0	0
James R. Brown, Esq., F.Z.S. (Scot.)		10	0
Tiverton Branch W.S.S., per Mrs. Jefferd :—Mrs. Cardell (15s.), Mr. and Mrs. Lake (10s.), Mrs. Jefferd (5s.), Miss Mallet (2s.) (Serbia) ...	1	12	0
Mrs. and Miss Glass (Serbia)	6	0	0
A. J. Ashton, Esq.	2	0	0
Mrs. M. A. Macdonald ...	3	3	0
Mrs. McAlley, Falkirk (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss K. D. Ogilivie (France)	2	0	0
Heathfield and District W.S.S., per Miss Taylor	2	0	0
"J. K."		10	0
The Misses Conochie	1	0	0
Sir R. Rowand Anderson (to name Bed, Serbia—"Annie Ross Anderson" Bed) ...	50	0	0
Miss Bartlett (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. and Miss Morrison (Serbia)	1	10	0
Miss Morton (Serbia)	10	0	0
Robert Miller, Esq.	5	0	0
Miss Courtauld (£100 for Serbia, £50 for France) ...	150	0	0
Miss Sutherland and Friends (Serbia)	2	2	0
Mrs. J. Maclean, Spain ...	5	0	0
Mrs. Alexander	1	0	0
Mrs. Silver (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Harrison (Serbia) ...		10	0
"M.," Edinburgh (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Johnston (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
"F.C.," London (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Members and Staff of McAdam's Commercial Training College, per G. McAdam, Esq. (Serbia)	1	5	0
Mrs. Lindsay (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Miss Ward, per Miss Hudson, Hon. Sec., Croydon W.S.S. (Serbia)		10	0
Pontypool and District W.S.S., per Mrs. Pratt	5	0	0
Mrs. Freeman (Serbia) ...	1	1	6
Miss Shannon (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
The Misses Barbour (Serbia)	25	0	0
"Dick Dalkeith" (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss White	1	1	0
Miss Corsellis and Miss Jewson (for "Wivenhoe" Bed, for Serbia)	25	0	0
Miss McVearn (Serbia) ...	3	0	0
The Misses Robertson (Serbia)		10	0
"Anonymous" (Serbia) ...		10	0
Miss McGregor	5	0	0
Miss Innes (Serbia)		5	0
Mrs. Word (Serbia)		2	6
Mrs. Macgregor		1	0
Collected by Mrs. David Scott (See List)	2	4	0
Collected by Mrs. Fred Salvesen ("Belgrave" Bed) :—Miss McNab (£25), Mrs. Stenhouse (£10), Miss Landale (£5), Miss Matheson (£5), The Misses Williamson (£2 2s.), Mr. D. L. B. Smith (£2), Mrs. G. Crabbie (£1), Mrs. Gordon Douglas (£1), Mr. W. T. Smith (£1), Mrs. Edmund Berry (10s.), Misses Buchan Hepburn (5s.), Lady Sym (5s.), Mrs. Dalziel (5s.), Mrs. Pagan (5s.), Mrs. Tail (5s.), Mrs. Falconer (3s.), Mrs. Stevenson (2s. 6d.) ...	54	5	0
Miss White, per Mrs. Gunn (towards "Princess Helena" Bed, Serbia)	4	0	0
Collected by Miss Gardner ...	1	10	0
"Anonymous" (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Boeme	2	0	0
Miss Hewat (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Evelyn Hog (Serbia) ...		10	0
Miss Harriet Hog (collected at Concert she gave in her own house, for Serbia) ...		12	3½
Miss Isabella Paterson (Serbia)		10	0
Miss Naish (Serbia)	7	0	0
Mrs. Neill Fraser (to name "Margaret Neill Fraser" Beds, Serbia)	100	0	0
Miss Margaret Weir (to name "Glencoe" Bed, Serbia) ...	25	0	0
Proceeds of Meeting, per Miss Crompton	19	7	2
Mrs. Sidey	5	0	0
Miss A. G. Simson (towards "Eton Terrace" Bed) ...	1	0	0
"A Terrier"		2	6
Miss McDonald (Serbia) ...		10	0
"A. R. M." (Serbia)	5	0	0
Mrs. Gibson (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Margaret R. Moore (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Hay (Serbia)	1	0	0
Collected by Miss Douglas Irvine	18	8	6
Lewisham and District Branch Free Church League W.S.S., per W. H. Chisholm, Esq. (Serbia)		10	0
The Misses Steedman (Serbia)	2	0	0
Bracknell W.S.S., per Miss Bradford :—Mrs. Faulkner (7s. 6d.), Mrs. Gilder (5s.), Miss Creaser (5s.), Mrs. Cleave (5s.)—(Oxford, Berks, and Bucks Federation—Serbia)	1	2	6
Per Mrs. Gunn, Newington Work Party :—Collected by Mrs. Dobson and Friends ...	19	15	4½
John S. Gibb, Esq. (2nd donation)	5	0	0
Miss Watson	1	0	0
Mrs. Forsyth	2	0	0
James Ferguson, Esq. (Serbia)	20	0	0
"Anonymous," Broughty Ferry		5	0
Miss Chapman (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Andrew Riddell (Serbia)	5	0	0
"Anon.," A Mite for Serbia		5	0
Dr. John Aitken (further donation)	5	5	0
Miss Robertson, Edinburgh (Serbia)	2	0	0
Rev. and Mrs. Thornton ...	10	0	0
Miss George (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Slight (Serbia)	5	0	0
Rev. Benjamin Bell (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss F. M. Godsmark (Serbia)	2	0	0
Mrs. Macleod (further donation, Serbia)	10	0	0
Rev. Austin Slack	5	0	0
The Misses Scott (Serbia) ...	3	0	0
Miss Gordon (Serbia)		5	0
Mrs. C. Macdonald (for a bed, Serbia)	25	0	0
Mrs. R. B. Ritchie (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
"A Sympathiser" (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Watkins (Serbia)	1	1	0
Per Mrs. Bentley Murray :—Mrs. Rissik (£5), Mrs. Bentley Murray (£1 1s.) (Serbia)	6	1	0
"E. M. M." (Serbia)	1	0	0
Rev. Cyril	5	0	0
The Misses Scott (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
Wanlockhead War Relief Committee, per John Edmond, Esq. (Serbia)	5	5	0
Mrs. Robertson	1	1	0
Miss Stewart (Serbia)		10	6
Mrs. J. S. Turner (Serbia—2nd donation)	10	0	0
Miss Jamieson (Serbia) ...	2	2	0
Miss Lewis (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. W. A. Wilson		5	0
"Anon.," Edinburgh	4	10	0
Miss Stalker (Serbia)	1	0	0
J. Macnab, Esq. (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Mackay	2	0	0
Mrs. I. J. Thomson	2	10	0
J. B. Tannahill, Esq. (Serbia)	1	1	0
Miss Belfrage (Serbia)... ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Holland (Serbia)	50	0	0
Rev. E. Giles (Serbia)	2	0	0
The Misses Simson (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
Mrs. G. Wilson (Serbia) ...	3	0	0
Proceeds of Friockheim Public School Concert, per F. Paterson, Esq Headmaster (Serbia)	8	0	0
Mrs. Gilbert	1	1	0
Miss Codling (Serbia)		10	0
Miss Govan Blalowan (Serbia)	5	0	0
Mrs. Blyth		10	0
Mrs. Galloway	1	0	0
Miss Ferguson (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
G. Millar, Esq.	5	0	0
Miss Harper (10s.) and Mrs. Neilson (10s.) (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Erskine	5	0	0
A. McIntosh, Esq.	20	0	0
Per Miss Bury	2	0	0
Nurses of Greenock Infirmary, per Sister Liddell	1	8	0
Proceeds of Lecture, per Miss Macdonald and Miss Hawley	28	11	0
Mrs. R. Watherston	5	0	0
Miss S. R. Courtald	100	0	0
D. Henderson, Esq. (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Thomson (Serbia) ...		5	0
Miss Pickington	1	1	0
Brdge of Weir W.S.S., per Miss Dalziel :—Rev. J. Bonar (£5), Mr. and Mrs. Church (£5), Mrs. Boucher (£1), Mrs. Buchanan (£1). Sums under 10s. (13s.)—(Serbia, towards the "Ranfurly Castle" Bed)	12	18	0
Collected by Miss Jamieson from the Children of Links School (£1) and from Delnis School (8s.), per Miss Ellis (Serbia)	1	8	0
"To Help," Crieff (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Dr. Sheila Ross (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
Messrs. John Walker & Co., Sugar Refiners, Greenock ...	50	0	0
Per Dr. Louise McIlroy (earmarked from "Serbian Flag Day" collection in Glasgow, 10s. of which to go to "Fraser" Bed)	28	11	0
Aberdeen Subscribers, per Mrs. Soddy (1st donation) ..	100	0	0
Per Dr. Louise McIlroy (earmarked from "Serbian Flag Day"	6	6	0
Kilmacolm W.S.S., per Mrs. Wood :—Mrs. Alston (£10) (2nd donation), Mrs. Jamieson (£3), Miss Buchanan (£4), Miss K. G. Wood (10s.)	17	10	0
Proceeds of Dancing Exhibition and Weekly Collection from St. Columba's School, Kilmacolm	20	0	0
Mrs. W. R. Macmillan (for "Catherine" Bed, France)	25	0	0
C. Boswell, Esq. (Serbia) ...	15	0	0
Per Miss Mair :—P. Whyte, Esq. (Serbia)	10	0	0
Per Miss Mair :—Mrs. Wright (Serbia)	5	0	0
Per Miss Mair :—Miss Dundas (2nd donation, Serbia) ...	3	0	0
Per Miss Mair :—Miss Stodart (Serbia)	5	0	0
Per Miss Mair :—Rev. Canon Farquhar (Serbia)	1	0	0
Per Miss Mair :—Towards "Chester Street" Bed (collected)—(See Supplementary List)	20	0	0
King's Sutton W.S.S., per Miss Browne, Hon. Sec. (Serbia)	3	5	11
"F."		5	0
"M. B."	5	10	0
Cheshire Suffragists, per Miss Simpson (for "Cheshire Suffragists" Bed—2nd donation) — (See Supplementary List)	14	3	6
Per Mrs. Sime :—Miss Paterson		5	0
Per Mrs. Sime :—Mrs. Kitt ...		2	6
Nurses and Maids of Greenock Infirmary, per Miss Filley, Matron (1st contribution) ...	1	6	0
Mrs. Johnson (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
Miss Jopp (Serbia)	2	0	0
A. Thoms, Esq. (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Miss Arnot	2	0	0
H. Gall, Esq. (Serbia)		2	6
A. Marshall, Esq. (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
Mrs. W. T. Anderson (Serbia)	1	10	0
Miss Sharp		10	0
Oxon, Berks, and Bucks Federation, per Mrs. P. H. Berney, Hon. Treas. (1st instalment towards Bed) ...	30	1	5
"Anon." (Serbia)	5	0	0
J. B. Pettigrew, Esq. (Serbia)	2	2	0
J. M. Nuttall, Esq. (Serbia) ...		5	0
Miss E. C. Pearson (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Ross (Serbia)	2	2	0
Miss A. E. Warmington ...	2	0	0
Mrs. and Miss Don (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Allan	1	0	0
Mrs. E. Fail (Serbia)		5	0
Miss F. Luard (Serbia) ...	3	0	0
Dr. and Mrs. Bethune-Baker (Serbia)	5	0	0
Mrs. J. G. Black (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss J. Smith (Serbia) ...	3	3	0
Mrs. Jesse Haworth (Serbia)	10	0	0
The Misses Wilson (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss E. Burt (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. A. H. Worthington (Serbia)	2	2	0
Mrs. E. A. Elvy (Serbia) ...	5	5	0
Mrs. G. Barker	2	0	0
From "Pat" (Serbia)		10	0
Mrs. Morrean (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Bayne Jardine (Serbia)	1	1	6
A. T. Bayne Jardine (Serbia)		10	0
Miss Ainslie		10	0
The Misses Scott (Serbia) ...	20	0	0
Per Mrs. Galbraith :—Mrs. and the Misses Thomson (towards "Douglas" Bed, Serbia)	10	0	0
Collected by the Misses Erskine (£50 for "Churchill" Bed, 10s. 6d. for bandages)	50	10	6
Mrs Campbell (2nd donation)	30	0	0
Mrs. McDonald	3	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Lindsay and Family	10	0	0
Wm. G. Spiers, Esq	1	0	0
Mrs. C. D. Murray (Serbia) ...	10	10	0
Dr. Elizabeth Courtauld (Serbia)	9	9	0
Miss J. M. Smith (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss M. Reid (Serbia)	5	0	0
Miss Harrison (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Miss Catherine Edward (Serbia)	1	0	0
Staff of Townhill Public School, Dunfermline, per George Henderson, Esq. ...	2	14	0
Miss Amy Acomb	1	1	0
"F. E. R."	2	0	0
Mrs. Carruthers (Serbia) ...		10	0
Mrs. Acton (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Whyte (Canada), per R. Shorthouse, Esq.		10	6
R. Shorthouse, Esq. (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Hinxman (towards N. Morningside U. F. Church Meeting)	2	2	0
Mrs. M. S.	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs H. C. Lamb ...	5	0	0
Miss Hastie (Serbia)	1	1	0
"Sympathiser" (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Mrs. R. Crompton Jones and Miss Jones (Serbia)	5	5	0
Per Miss E. B. Boykett (Serbia)	1	11	0
Miss Scott (Serbia)	20	0	0
J. Hunter Currie, Esq. (Serbia)	5	0	0
Robert Sterling, Esq., Perth, Major, R.A.M.C.	3	3	6
Per Miss Aird :—Proceeds of Whist Drive	20	3	6
Miss Sibbald	20	0	0
W. Walker, Esq. (supplementary to former donation)	2	2	0
Mrs. Barclay (Serbia)	10	0	0
Miss Lawson (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Bryde	5	0	0
Miss Wishart	3	0	0
Collected by Pupils, per Miss Macdonald		7	0
"Anonymous"	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Donald		10	0
Miss Flett		10	0
Miss Morrison		10	0
Per Miss E. M. Clarke, Headmistress, Broughton and Crumpsall High School for Girls (Serbia) — Result of Girls' Collections for two weeks	5	0	0
Mrs. Baerlein (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Dr. Helen Wilson	20	0	0
Mrs. Rodger	5	5	0
Mrs. Somerville (Serbia) ...	2	2	0
Miss Campbell	1	0	0
Miss Bowker		5	0
Mrs. Streeter		5	0
Miss D. Streeter		3	0
Mrs. Wilson (Serbia)		5	0
Maryport W.S.S., per Miss Sybil Maugham, Hon. Sec. ...	5	0	0
Miss Gertrude Taylor	5	0	0
Mrs. Anderson Gardiner ...	4	0	0
Mrs. Hatton (Serbia)	2	2	0
Mrs. Stephen Brown (Serbia)	1	1	0
Miss M. Davidson (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Gedward (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
"M. R." and "J. R." (Serbia)	2	0	0
Collected at N. Morningside U. F. Church Meeting, per Miss Begbie :—Miss A. H. Begbie (£25) (to name "Peace" Bed), Miss J. R. M. Kemp (£5 5s.) (Serbia), Balance of Collection at N. Morningside U. F. Church Meeting (£18 7s. 6d.) (Serbia)	48	12	6
Collected in Dalhousie Terrace, Edinburgh, by Mrs. C. M. U. Ferguson	3	3	3
Hon. Mrs. Haverfield (Serbia)	6	0	0

[We regret that owing to pressure on our space we are obliged to hold over the remainder of the List of Donations, bringing the total up to £18,402 7s. 1½d.]

The Challenge

The Illustrated Church of England Weekly.

EVERY FRIDAY. ONE PENNY.

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Among those who contribute are **Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Luke Paget, Miss A. Maude Royden, Miss Ruth Rouse, Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, Mrs. Pember Reeves, &c.**

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What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Nottingham.

The annual meeting of the Nottingham Branch was held on March 30th when, on the retirement of Mrs. Percy and Mrs. J. Anson from the joint Hon. Secretaryship, their place was taken by Mrs. Gerard Dowson. The other officers were re-elected. Mrs. Dowson, Senr., proposed that the Society should contribute the necessary £25 for the naming of a bed for the Serbian hospital unit. She herself contributed £10 and nearly another £10 was promised during the meeting. An excellent survey of the work of the N.U. and kindred women's societies during the war was given by Mrs. Rackham, who also specially pointed out the future spheres which would open to women. The chair was taken by Mrs. Bolton.

West Midland Federation.—Redditch.

The annual meeting of the Redditch Suffrage Society was held on Wednesday, March 25th, at the Women and Girls' Institute, Queen Street, at 8 p.m. Mr. Victor Woodfield kindly took the chair, and the audience then listened to a stirring address by Mrs. Ring, who spoke mainly about the effect of the present war upon the Woman's Movement. A resolution on this subject, addressed to the Member for East Worcestershire, was carried by the meeting. A good collection was afterwards taken

Kentish Federation.

The Hon. Sec. has received contributions in money and clothing in response to her appeal for the Scottish Women's Hospital for Serbia. The following Societies—Deal and Walmer, Herne Bay, Maidstone—have undertaken to send parcels of work direct to Dr. Inglis.

Deal & Walmer Society.—Circular postcards have been sent out to all members asking for assistance for the Serbian Hospital.

Herne Bay Society.—A working party for the needs of the Serbian Hospital is organised and the local Press has inserted a paragraph about it. A Maternity and District Nursing Association has recently been started and, still greater achievement, its President, Miss Emily E. Abraham, has been returned at the head of the poll on the Urban District Council. This is the first time that a woman candidate has ever come forward. In addition to this most satisfactory result, the Society may also congratulate itself that its energetic Chairman, Mr. Cowper Field, was re-elected on the Council by a heavy poll.

Maidstone Society.—An entertainment is being organised to take place in May, the proceeds of which will be partly given for the Serbian Hospital Unit as well as the needlework contributed by the working parties.

Tunbridge Wells Society.—The office which is converted into a clothing depôt has received 45 parcels of clothing during March, and dealt with 46 cases, Belgians, S.S.F.A. & C.O.S., amongst whom 372 garments were distributed.

Stafford Central Counties Federation.

The annual general meeting was held on March 23rd at the Guild Hall, Co-operative Buildings, Stafford. Miss G. J. McCrea, who presided said that though, owing to the war, they had laid aside propaganda work, they would become more energetic after the war than they had been before.

Miss M. MacKenzie, Hon. Secretary, presented the annual report, and told of the organising work done by Mrs. Streeter last spring, the preparation for a dramatic entertainment, and also for a public meeting prior to the war. The Stafford Society had contributed £8 (irrespective of another private donation of a guinea), to the Scottish Women's Hospital Fund, the £8 to be devoted to the bed being named after the Central Counties Federation.

Mrs. F. G. Mott, Hon. Treasurer, gave a report of the financial position of the Society, the credit balance being 13s. 7d.

Mrs. R. G. Patterson, Hon. Press Secretary, said that excellent reports had been given by the local press, in spite of the war; she had attended most of the Federation Committee meetings as representative of the Society, and also the Council meetings as delegate. At the last Council meeting, her fellow delegate had been Miss M. Sheepshanks, who at great inconvenience to herself (through indisposition) had most kindly kept her appointment.

Dr. Oliver Elgood Turner, Hon. Treasurer to the Central Counties Federation, then gave a most inspiring address, in which she reviewed the work of the National Union during the war. She advised the Stafford Society to assist in establishing "Infant Care Societies," in the town, and spoke of the great mortality amongst children under one year of age. She also thought that the formation of a Soldiers' Club at the new camp on Cannock Chase would be most useful.

Bristol East Branch.

The annual meeting of the above Society was held in the St. Laurence Parish Hall on March 19th. Miss C. Tothill was re-elected President, Miss N. Hancock Treasurer, Miss M. Pride will again act as Hon. Sec. Reports were read by both Secretary and Treasurer, showing a good year's work. After the business meeting a public meeting was held. Mr. A. Fenner Brockway was the principal speaker, supported by Councillor Ayles, Parliamentary Candidate for East Bristol, and Mrs. A. Townley. Miss Geraldine Cooke presided in place of Miss Tothill, who was suffering from influenza. Miss Tothill sent a letter, which was read to the meeting by Miss Cooke. Mr. Brockway gave an inspiring and helpful address, which was enjoyed and appreciated by a large audience.

The following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That this meeting affirms its conviction that the participation of women in national responsibility and in civic and political rights is of vital importance to the furtherance of lasting international peace."

A collection was taken to defray expenses, the amount collected being £1 14s. 4d.

Pontypool and District.

On the outbreak of the war the Pontypool Society decided to do something to help the poor nursing mothers of the district. A meeting of the Society was called, and a scheme of relief was drawn up. Members were appointed in each district to visit the women and find out deserving cases. A pint of milk a day is allowed to each mother for three months, and also packets of oats, bovril, &c., at the discretion of the visitors. Most of the women are wives of soldiers at the front, but the Society does not limit itself to such cases. The money to carry out this work is raised by weekly subscriptions from the members, and valuable help has also been given by people outside the Society. Altogether, we have helped forty women, and the mothers have not only appreciably improved in health, but are also extremely grateful for any assistance. The Society is proud of having among the babies one case of twins and one of triplets, all of whom are flourishing!

Every month the mothers and babies are entertained to tea, when the members of the Society—many of them in fear and trembling!—take charge of the babies, while their mothers enjoy a quiet talk. A gramaphone and music of all kinds are provided for their entertainment. At first it was intended only to carry on this work during the winter, but it has been such a success, and has supplied such a real need in the district, that it has been decided to continue as long as possible.

Items of Interest.

Darlington Elects a Woman Councillor.

Miss Clara Lucas, who was last week elected Councillor of the County Borough of Darlington, is Chairman of the Darlington Society for Women's Suffrage. She is also a member of a sub-committee appointed by the War Relief Committee, having charge of a maternity centre, which is doing good work in the town for mothers and children. This, she hopes, will be taken over by the Council and largely developed by them. As a member of the old School Board, Miss Lucas did good work in connection with education, and she was on the new education authority until 1910.

Women Head Poll at Abingdon.

At the election for Abingdon Poor Law Guardians, held on March 29th two women were first and second on the list of successful candidates. This is very satisfactory, as neither of these women, or any others, had offered their services on any previous occasion.

Women in Agriculture.

At a meeting of the Agriculturists' and Horticulturists' Advisory Committee of the Lyceum Club, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

"That the Agriculturists' and Horticulturists' Advisory Committee of the Lyceum Club is strongly of opinion that women's interests should have adequate representation on any body appointed by the Government to deal with land work."

International Conference of Socialists and Labour Women.

Twenty-eight delegates, representing Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia, Poland, Holland, Switzerland, and Italy, attended an international conference of Socialists and Labour women held in Berne on March 26th-28th; the Socialist women of Belgium and Austria found it imposible to be present, owing to the difficulties of travelling. The British section of the Women's International Council of Socialists and Labour Organisation sent four delegates—Dr. Marion Phillips, Miss Mary Longman, Mrs. Salter, and Miss Margaret Bondfield—and the Council reports that the delegates met in friendly sympathy, and the cordial relations between the representatives of Great Britain and Germany were especially marked.

After the general business, the Conference passed a resolution of sympathy with the International Congress of Women, to be held at The Hague at the end of this month.

Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation, held in Dublin, on March 29th, the following resolutions were passed:—

"That the Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation, realising the importance of the appeal to women for national war service, would remind the Government that Women's position has not yet been regularised by the State, as until they have been admitted to citizenship their opportunities for doing national service must inevitably suffer, while their industrial position cannot be safeguarded as it ought to be in the best interests of women and the nation.

"That the Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation heartily respond to the Government's call for help, and they are glad to have this opportunity of being of service to their country, and they desire that every Society in the Federation should work for this end."

They hope, with representatives of other Societies, to form an Advisory Committee, which will be able and willing to give advice as to wages and conditions of work.

The Nation's Call to Women.

A public meeting organised by the New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage will be held at the Knightsbridge Palace Hotel on Tuesday, April 13th, at 3 o'clock. Lord Robert Cecil will speak on "The Nation's Call to Women."

Some Useful Addresses.

Employment and Relief, &c.

Local Government Board—London, Edinburgh, and Dublin.
Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund—3, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.
Central Committee on Women's Employment—Miss Mary Macarthur, 8, Grosvenor Place, S.W.
Queen's Work for Women Fund—Communications to Lady Roxburgh. Cheques, Mrs. C. Arthur Pearson, 33, Portland Place, W.
Government Sub-Committee for dealing with unemployment amongst professional people.—J. B. Beresford, Esq., Local Government Board, Whitehall, S.W.
Workers' National Committee—28, Victoria Street, S.W.
National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies—*Sec.*, Miss Crookenden, M.A., Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.
London Society for Women's Suffrage (N.U.W.S.S.)—*Sec.*, Miss Phillippa Strachey, 58, Victoria Street.
Women's Emergency Corps—8-10, Baker Street, W.
Women's Freedom League—1, Robert Street, Adelphi.
East London Federation of Suffragettes—Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, 400, Old Ford Road, Bow, E.
Professional Classes War Relief Council—*Hon. Secs.*, T. Chambers, Esq., A. Goddard, Esq., and Mrs. Gotto, 13 and 14, Princes Gate, S.W.
Press Contributors' Emergency Fund—*Sec.*, Miss Hall, care of N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. To assist journalists who have lost their occupation owing to the war.
Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries—The Secretary, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand. War Emergency Fund (same address).
Women's Co-operative Guild—28, Church Row, Hampstead, N.W.
British Dominions Overseas Women's Suffrage Union—Miss Harriet Newcomb, care of International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W.

Schemes for Social Welfare Amongst Women and Girls.

National Organisation of Girls' Clubs—118, Great Titchfield Street, W.
Girl Guides—116, Victoria Street, S.W. (Head Office).

Forthcoming Meetings.

APRIL 9.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Miss Irene Vanburgh, on "Acting as a Profession for Women"—Chair, Miss S. E. S. Mair 4.30

APRIL 12.

Bristol—40, Park Street—Working Party for N.U. Scottish Hospital in Serbia 3.0

APRIL 13.

Wishaw—Women's Unionist and Conservative Association—Speakers, Dr. Louise Macillroy and Miss E. M. C. Foggo on "The N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals" 3.30

APRIL 14.

Redhill—Small Market Hall—Annual Meeting of Redhill, Reigate, and District Society—Business Meeting at 7.30—Public Meeting at 8—Speaker, Dr. Elsie Inglis, C.M., on "The Work of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals"

APRIL 15.

Wallasey and Wirral—St. Paul's Schools—Seacombe Tipperary Club 7.30

APRIL 16.

Kensington—32, Addison Road—Dr. Elsie Inglis on "The N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals in France and Serbia"—Chair, the Lady Frances Balfour 3.30

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP.

AT a late hour we have had to substitute a Lecture, by Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky, on "The Need for Baby Saving," for the Lecture by Miss Christopher St. John, at the Suffrage Club on Tuesday, April 13th, at 8.0 p.m. Admission Free. Collection.

RONALD KILDARE—Professional Reciter, Elocutionist. Attractive, varied repertoire. Member three Suffrage Societies. Special terms to societies.—21, Downside-crescent, Hampstead.

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WARDROBES purchased (ladies' and gents'); also household linen, boots, and curtains. Bankers' reference.—London Dress Agency, 27, Green-rd., Southsea.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued, and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100, Raby-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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BURFORD.—Small house to let, furnished, for two months; one sitting, three bedrooms, kitchen, scullery, &c.; electric light; rent 10s. per week.—Apply Mrs. Percival, Greyhounds, Burford, Oxon.

CHELSEA.—Miss V. C. C. Collum, abroad with Scottish Women's Hospital, desires to let her 3-roomed furnished self-contained flat, overlooking river, at 4, Milton-chambers, 128, Cheyne-walk, S.W., from April 1st, for 6 months. Sitting-room, bedroom, kitchen, &c; bath; telephone (1d. per call); plate and linen; 25s. weekly.—To view, apply Caretaker, 2, Milton-chambers. To rent, apply Miss Aileen Collum, 35, Oakley-st., Chelsea.

LADY (student) offers worker quiet Bed-Sitting Room; attendance, board (vegetarian or otherwise), 25s.; garden, mutual independence.—87, Haslemere-rd., Thornton Heath.

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